

REMARKS

Claims 25-45 are pending in the present application. In a previous Amendment, claims 1-24 were canceled and claims 25-45 were added. In this Amendment, claims 25-45 are canceled and claims 46-61 are added. No new matter has been added.

On page 2 of the Office Action, the Examiner states that the title is not descriptive. Further, the Examiner states, "A new title is required that is clearly indicative of the invention to which the claims are directed. The following title is suggested: METHOD FOR FORMING PIN ALLOY-SEMINCONDUCTOR DEVICES WITH RECTIFYING JUNCTION CONTACTS." Accordingly, pursuant to the Examiner's suggestion, the title has been amended to recite "METHODS FOR FORMING PIN ALLOY-SEMICONDUCTOR DEVICES WITH RECTIFYING JUNCTION CONTACTS."

Priority Data

As recited in the Cross-Reference to Related Applications, this application is a continuation of U.S. Patent Application No. 09/736,157, filed December 15, 2000, now U.S. Patent No. 6,803,322. Accordingly, the Cross-Reference to Related Applications has been updated to recite that U.S. Patent Application No. 09/736,157 has issued as U.S. Patent No. 6,803,322.

Objection to Claims 26-30

Claims 26-30 are objected to because of the following informalities: line 1, "the alloy-semiconductor comprises" should be -the alloy-semiconductors comprise-. This rejection is rendered moot in view of the cancellation of claims 26-30. Accordingly, the undersigned representative respectfully requests that the objection to claims 26-30 be removed.

Rejection of Claims 25-30 Under 35 U.S.C. § 112

Claims 25-30 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention. More specifically, the Examiner states there is insufficient antecedent basis for “the alloy material” and “the alloy” in claim 25, and claims 26-30 are rejected as depending upon the rejected base claim. This rejection is rendered moot in view of the cancellation of claims 25-30. Accordingly, the undersigned representative respectfully requests that the rejection of claims 25-30 under 35 U.S.C. § 112 be withdrawn.

Rejection of Claims 25-45 Under 35 U.S.C. § 101

Claims 25-45 are rejected as claiming the same invention as that of claims 1-21 of U.S. Patent No. 6,803,322. This rejection is rendered moot in view of the cancellation of claims 25-45. The undersigned representative believes that new claims 46-61 are patentably distinct from claims 1-21 of U.S. Patent No. 6,803,322. Accordingly, the undersigned representative respectfully requests that the Examiner withdraw the rejection of claims 25-45 under 35 U.S.C. § 101.

CONCLUSION

The undersigned representative respectfully submits that this application is in condition for allowance, and such disposition is earnestly solicited. If the Examiner believes that the prosecution might be advanced by discussing the application with the undersigned representative, in person or over the telephone, we welcome the opportunity to do so. In addition, if any additional fees are required in connection with the filing of this response, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge the same to Deposit Account No. 501458.

Respectfully submitted,

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